

Other donations of note were from Lord Kilbracken a copy of "Letters from Early New Zealand," by Mrs. F. E. Godley; from the Royal College of Physicians, a set of their roll in three volumes; from the Institute of Pacific Relations, the papers of the Yosemite Conference of 1936; from the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., a fine set of an early American newspaper, the *Daily National Intelligencer* (1823-59); the Official Bulletin (1917-9) and other valuable historical publications of the United States Government; from the Westminster Bank, a "History of the Bank for One Hundred Years"; from the Henry George Foundation, London, a full set of their publications; and from the executors of the late F. W. Oakley, books of clippings and New Zealand parliamentary cartoons. Various political organizations in Great Britain responded generously to our request for a regular supply of their party literature; and we have also received regularly from one of the leading German information bureaux information and literature about the aims and progress of the new Germany; and from the Consul for Italy similar literature about Fascist Italy. Other donations have been received from the following: American Library Association, A. D. Amos (Adelaide), C. A. Baker (Wellington), Bank of New South Wales (Sydney), Dr. R. Campbell Begg, Mr. and Mrs. Caerlyon-Bennett (Wellington), Birmingham Jewellers and Silversmiths Association, British Union of Fascists, E. J. Burrow and Co., Ltd. (Cheltenham), Carnegie Corporation of New York, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees, H. M. Chapin (Rhode Island), Commonwealth Dried Fruits Export Control Board, Consul for China (Wellington), Consul-General for Japan (Sydney), Consul-General for Sweden (Sydney), Brigadier M. Owen Culshaw (London), Czechoslovakian Consul-General (Sydney), Director of Empire Service (B.B.C.), Empire Parliamentary Association, G. M. Fowlds (Auckland), Samuel Greenwood (Blackburn, England), Empire Parliamentary Association (South Australian Branch), Estate of Andrew Guy (Palmerston North), Henry Harrison (England), Professor Gustav Hubener (Germany), Illinois State Library, Institute of Civil Engineers (Westminster), Institute of Public Administration, Rev. Walter G. Ivens, C. R. Johns (Surrey), R. P. Anschutz (Auckland), the Marquis of Tavistock, Public Library of Victoria (Melbourne), Society of Motor Manufacturers (London), National Association of Housing Officials, National Economic Bank (Warsaw), National Library of Wales, National Broadcasting Board (New York), W. J. Organ (Wellington), P.E.N. Club of Buenos Aires, Presbytery of Launceston (Tasmania), Scientific Publishing Company (Princeton, N.J.), South Manchuria Railway Company, D. G. Stead (Sydney), The *Times* (London), National University of Ireland, University of London, Wellington Public Library, C. E. Wheeler (Wellington), and A. Yusuf Ali, C.B.E. (England).

The valuable collection of trophies, addresses, portraits, &c., belonging to the late Right Hon. R. J. Seddon, Prime Minister of New Zealand, which was deposited with Parliament by the family some months ago, is at present housed in the Library. The trophies are displayed in a large showcase in the main reading-room, and the other portions of the collection will be provided for as opportunity presents. The portraits form a valuable addition to our portrait collection, which is attaining considerable proportions.

DEPOSITED COLLECTIONS.

The Library of the Wellington Philosophical Society has been deposited with the General Assembly Library on terms approved by the Joint Library Committee last year. The current staff work entailed is not excessive and the arrangement promises to be satisfactory to both parties. The society's books are more readily accessible to their members and at the same time available as an addition to the scientific sections of the General Assembly Library. It is hoped as soon as the cataloguers have overtaken the leeway in our own work to be able to complete the cataloguing of this deposit, which will make it of greater value to all interested.

Early in 1937 the Wellington Diocesan Synod deposited some hundreds of books out of its valuable library on similar terms. This deposit also will be catalogued as opportunity occurs, and meanwhile is available for use on the usual reference conditions.

STAFF WORK.

The protracted recess since Parliament was prorogued in October, 1936, has enabled us to overtake a good deal of work which had been awaiting for such an opportunity. Good progress has been made with the shelf list, which is now approaching completion. This task, which involved making about 130,000 cards, was commenced some years ago in the hope that the existing staff could carry it out as time offered from routine duties. Progress under these conditions being very slow and the work being essentially of a clerical description, a temporary assistant was engaged last year, by whom the work has been brought almost to completion. The shelf list will be of great assistance both to the cataloguers (whose work is concentrated on the first floor) and to users of the Library, who under present conditions have only the catalogue on the ground floor to consult.

Extra assistance was also made available after Parliament prorogued by employing several messengers and committee clerks for some weeks on special duties in the Library. This was of great assistance in stock-taking, cleaning, and in bringing up to date certain indexes which had been untouched for many years past.

Good progress has been made with the portrait index, and since the end of the financial year the Sinclair Papers, which were presented to the Library some years ago by Dr. Sinclair Gillies, of Sydney, have been properly arranged, short-calendared, and bound. This is a small but valuable collection of 214 letters and journals. Dr. Sinclair was Colonial Secretary 1844-56 and also a noted scientist, and the papers throw much light on the early political history of New Zealand and on scientific exploration in both Islands.